Additional digital electronic exchange lines by Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited

422. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, Delhi has a proposal to give additional digital electronic exchange lines;

(b) if so, the details of the digital electronic exchanges from which lines would be given;

(c) the date upto which the waiting lists in these exchanges would be covered; and

(d) by when these would be given?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PRAKASH): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha.

Review of India's Nuclear Policy

423. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN:
SHRI RANJIT SINGH:
SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have reviewed the present situation relating to India's Nuclear Policy;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have been considering to convert their nuclear capability into nuclear capacity in the light of the present world crises.

(d) if so, in what manner; and

(e) if the reply to part (c) above be in negative, in what manner Government propose to face an eventuality of nuclear threat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) to (e) The security situation of India remains constantly under review, particularly in the light of developments in the neighbourhood. The Government of India will take all necessary measures designed to cope with any threat that may be posed to the security of the nation.

Indians returning from the Gulf

424. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians who have returned to India since the out-break of war in the Gulf;

(b) what steps Government have taken to provide assistance to them;

(c) whether Government have initiated any steps to rehabilitate them; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) Over 4,440 Indian nationals are estimated to have returned (till February 21, 1991) to India from the Gulf region since the beginning of the recent hostalities in the area.

(b) Indian missions abroad have rendered all possible assistance in coordination with concerned International Organisations, local Governments and local Indian communities, to Indians returning from the Gulf region. They have also been assisted, *inter-alia*, in travelling to their hometowns in India and the resumption of the education of their children.

(c) and (d) The Government of India have not so far embarked on any scheme to rehabilitate the repatriated Indians from Gulf countries.